

# IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE

Age of Administration	Name of Vaccine	Route of Administration
At birth	BCG	Injection on the right upper arm
6 weeks	OPV 1	By Mouth
	Pentavalent 1	Injection on the right mid-thigh
	PCV 1	Injection on the left mid- thigh
	Rotavirus 1	By Mouth
10 weeks	OPV 2	By Mouth
	Pentavalent 2	Injection on the right mid-thigh
	PCV 2	Injection on the left mid- thigh
	Rotavirus 2	By Mouth
14 weeks	OPV 3	By Mouth
	Pentavalent 3	Injection on the right mid-thigh
	PCV 3	Injection on the left mid- thigh
9 months	Measles	Injection on left upper arm
18 months	DPT Booster	Injection on the right mid-thigh
	OPV Booster	By Mouth

*CHILD SURVIVAL  
CALLS FOR  
INTEGRATED,  
EVIDENCE-BASED  
CHILD HEALTH  
INTERVENTIONS*



**Pneumococcal Conjugate  
Vaccine (PCV)**

**KEY FACTS**

## **KEY FACTS ABOUT PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE**

### **VACCINE (PCV13)**

- ◆ Pneumococcal vaccines protect against several severe forms of pneumococcal disease, such as meningitis, pneumonia, and bacteraemia.
- ◆ They will not protect against these conditions if they are caused by agents other than pneumococcus or from strains of pneumococcus that are not contained in the vaccine.
- ◆ The vaccine that will be introduced in Zimbabwe in 2012 will protect against 13 common types of pneumococcal serotypes and is thus commonly referred to as PCV13.

## **SAFETY OF PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE**

- ◆ Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is safe and well tolerated; severe adverse reactions attributable to the vaccine are extremely rare.
- ◆ Mild side effects such as soreness at the injection site and transient fever of about 39°C have been reported in less than 5% of children vaccinated.

## **SAFETY OF PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE {Continued}**

- ◆ Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine has been proven to be safe and well tolerated even among children infected with HIV, malnutrition, and sickle cell disease.

### **FINAL MESSAGES ON THE PCV13 VACCINATION**

- ◆ Pneumonia and meningitis (infection of the membranes covering the brain) are among the most common causes of death and disability in children.
- ◆ Vaccines can help to greatly reduce children's risk of contracting pneumonia and meningitis.
- ◆ The Hib and pneumococcal vaccines are very safe and effective for protecting against the two most common and serious bacteria-causing childhood pneumonia and meningitis.
- ◆ It is important that children receive all three doses of PCV13 vaccines before the age of one year (at 6weeks, 10 weeks, and 14weeks).

## **FINAL MESSAGES ON THE PCV13 VACCINATION {Cont'd}**

- ◆ In addition to immunization, children can be protected from pneumonia by exclusive breastfeeding during the first 6 months of the child's life, good nutrition, reducing overcrowding, and hand washing with soap.
- ◆ Although it may be uncomfortable for the child to receive two injections at the same time, the benefits outweigh the risk of contracting and managing pneumococcal diseases.
- ◆ PCV13 vaccine is safe. Occasionally this vaccine may cause a mild reaction, including a fever or a local reaction (swelling, hotness, and redness where the child had the injection). Serious side effects are rare but should they occur, the child should be taken to the nearest health facility.



**For more information, please consult or  
visit your nearest health worker or  
health facility.**